

THE IVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HIGHWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE HELD ON 04th NOVEMBER 2020 at 6.00PM VIA ZOOM CALL

Present: Cllrs Chris Jordan (Chairman), Wendy Matthews, Ann Mayling, Carol Gibson, Geoff Bennett, Peter Stanhope, Kevin Brown and Ciaran Beary.

In attendance: Stephanie Bennett (Clerk), Martin Haley (Administration Officer) and 2 members of the public. Minutes taken by Martin Haley.

The Chairman advised the meeting that Cllr Wendy Mathews would be leaving at 18.45 and therefore items 5, 8 & 10 would be taken out of sequence shown on the Agenda.

H. 025/20 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

None were received.

H.026/20 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None were received.

H.027/20 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

No questions were asked at this time – The Chairman advise that member of the public were welcome to stay online and observe the rest of the meeting.

H.028/20 MINUTES:

RESOLVED that

The Minutes of the Highways and Infrastructure Committee held on 28th September 2020 be agreed and were signed by the Chairman, subject to a correction of a typographical error. Unity should have read Unitary Cllrs.

H.029/20 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman reported that the refurbishment work on the Clock Tower had now been completed and the results are very pleasing.

(a) Parking schemes – The Community Board has now set up a Sub Group under the chair of Cllr Wendy Matthews. The Community Board met on the 3rd November and Cllr Matthews indicated the following timeline:

- **Richings Park** - initial pilot scheme completed, permanent scheme to be included in new Buckinghamshire T.R.O. for current Countywide schemes to be issued in February, for enactment in March 2021 – This will also include a full Residents Parking Scheme with effect from April 2021.
- **Iver Heath** – New scheme to include parking for the Shops in Thornbridge Road and surrounding area for residents parking together with a scheme for
- **Iver High Street** - from the Shops to the Junior School – again with provision for Shops and residential parking will be discussed and examined by the Sub Group with the plans being published for consultation in the Community, in the first quarter

of the new year. Following engagement in the community and subject to a large response of the residents indicating support the Community Board would look to provide funding towards the project.

In order to reduce costs and speed up the process the two projects would be run together and included in a single T.R.O for the County.

- **Pinewood Green** – In view of possible developments at Pinewood Studios, a separate scheme linked to a S106, application could be better tailored to meet requirements in this area and avoid delays to the current schemes.

(b) Wild Flowers – Further to discussion at the last meeting, the cost of scheme [managed by Blue Finn and excluding seed costs] will be £1.30/Square Mtr. Additional costs would also need to cover 2 or 3 initial seedings, depending on successful germination, permit applications to cover work and agreement with Buckinghamshire Council regarding grass cutting cycles.

- In addition to the proposal to include the junction of Langley Park Road/Love Lane, members were asked to forward possible sites for evaluation in Richings Park and Iver Heath.

(c) Damaged Bollards – Two concrete traffic bollards, near the traffic calming point have been damaged by HGV traffic and need replacement. The bollards need to be approved by Highways, but the Committee felt that they should be replaced with steel reinforced concrete. **Agreed** – to seek costings and approval from Highways for installation of steel reinforced replacement units.

(d) T.C.I.D/Speedwatch – The Council has one functional T.C.I.D machine which has been deployed in the past with varying degrees of success. An approach has been made by residents to redeploy the unit and or to re-engage the Speedwatch use in Wood Lane and Church Road Iver Heath.

- The existing unit is labour intensive and to site in new locations will need Highways approval. Police are reluctant to act on the data and use of the Speedwatch equipment has had to postponed due to CV10 protocols with manning.
- Any new scheme will need a Partnership Agreement with TVP.
- Any new sites will also need approval of Highways Authority.

Agreed IPC will approach the Community Board in respect to funding possibilities, and to form a sub group to look at Strategy regarding purchase and deployment of new TCIP/ANPR equipment. [Cllrs Ann Mayling, Peter Stanhope, Geoff Bennett and Ciaran Beary].

(e) Community Speed-watch – No change – currently suspended due COVID 19

- Noted that the speedwatch equipment will capture speed and data of the vehicle/type of vehicle.

(f) Street light – High Street – Confirmed this had been moved as a result of the pending re-development of Everham Lodge 100 High Street.

H.030/20 WORKING GROUP – FOOTPATHS AND CYCLEWAYS:

Report from the reconvened Working Group has been circulated to members – the 3 main options which would be suited for S106 funding noted:

- Five Points
- Cycle Lane Wood Lane
- Cycle lane/path - Pinewood to Iver Station.

After discussion it was felt that the best option based upon the 3rd option, and look to linking Thornbridge Road and Pinewood, along Bangor Road North and South, Everham Road/ Bangors Close to the High Street.

Agreed – to seek funding and support of Buckinghamshire Council through the Community Board for this the 3rd option. Noted the next meeting of the Community Board will be in February 2021.

Thanks, given by the Chairman to members of the Working Group for their input.

H.031/20 LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS:

The following updates were provided:

- a. **HS2:** There have been no further major changes.
- b. **WRLtH:** Now delayed for one or possibly two years and the DCO (Development Consent Order) application has been put back to December 2021.
- c. **Link Park:** Further presentation made to Council in September, and since understand that the L B of Hillingdon have objected the proposal to extend the footprint over the boundary. Awaiting to see if new a Planning Application is forthcoming – in the meantime site is still being used for aggregate movements.
- d. **Heathrow Airport:** This has been put back by at least 5 years and the current programme of work has been paused, We understand that the Airport has cut back on current operations and made some 25,000 staff redundant.
- e. **Crossrail:** Whilst construction of the surface sections to Paddington are now complete, improved frequency and through service now not expected before late 2022.
- f. **Land North of Iver Station – Thorney Business Park:** New presentation made to Council in September, and scoping plans have been published together with virtual exhibition and public consultation last month. Plans differ from the earlier consultation [2016] but could still result in increase in housing of 2,500 and retention of a large part of the Business Park.
- g. **M4 Smart Motorway:** The works are still progressing with weekend closures of the M4 occurring as planned. Repeated requests for sound attenuating fencing to be provided at the southern border of the Parish which been rejected has now been taken up by our MP – Joy Morrissey.
- h. **Pinewood Visitor Centre** – Proposals published late September and have also been discussed at the recent Community Board Meeting. Suggested that the input and representation of residents group be sought. **Noted** that need to check Terms of Reference for these meetings. Fulmer Wexham and Gerrards Cross Councils have expressed their concern and intend through the Co-ordination of the Community

Board to object to the proposals. [Cllr. Wendy Matthews left the meeting – 18.50]

H.032/20

STREET LIGHTING:

- a. **Streetlighting – Replacement and permit applications:** The work is now scheduled for w/c 9th November, and will include replacement of outstanding units in Old Slade Lane, Cedar Close, Mansion Lane, The Parkway and Lossie Drive.
- b. **Streetlighting – Defects and replacements:**
 - o Streetlights – PC 3 outside 21 Rostrevor Gardens and PC 8 outside Syke Ings, are both awaiting power supply issues to be resolved. Scottish and Southern Power Networks have advised that currently non-emergency works have been paused.
 - o Following the completion of the 3rd phase of the LED street lighting improvements a further unit [PC19 – Adjacent to the Doctors Surgery] in Trewarden Avenue was identified at the last meeting as being in a poor state of repair and needs replacement. Quotation now received and circulated. **Agreed** to accept the quotation - £ 397.09 for connection and £672.77 for replacement and installation.

The Chairman advised the meeting that Martin had updated the inventory of lighting to include the LED upgrades and approximately 65% of the units have been upgraded and now resulted in a reduction in the non-metered charges. **Noted** that the new units also operate on reduced brightness between 24.00 and 05.00, so we should also see a significant reduction in energy costs. Already seeing a reduction in failure of units – so also anticipate a reduction in repair costs. MH requested to check costs for the past 3 years to check the savings, which can then be used as a good news story, for residents.

H.033/20

STREET FURNITURE:

Benches: Thanks to Cllrs Peter Stanhope and Kevin Brown work had commenced on a review of all benches on the inventory. Keven had established some that would need replacement timbers and it was felt that hardwood should be chosen as this will be longer lasting.

Agreed – to progress with the inventory and produce a programme of works for the next meeting.

Installation of Cycle Racks: Cllr Jordan up-dated the meeting regarding the siting of the units as proposed at the last meeting, due to location of services in the Market Square. As there is only space for one unit, **Agreed** to look at using a site outside the Councils Office [replacing one of the seats] for one of the “Sheffield” racks as discussed last meeting, and to seek removal of the waste bins at the Clock Tower for the second unit.

Noted – to check with Cllr Matthews regarding funding opportunities with LHR community fund for placement of similar racks at Iver Recreation Ground.

Dog Waste Bins: Three replacement Dog waste bins will be needed at Iver Heath Recreation Ground. Quotation received from Buckinghamshire joint waste team for

south Bucks and Chiltern area. **Agreed** to meet costs of replacement, but to check if more user friendly units are available. May also look at re-siting of units to ensure better use, ease of maintenance, conflicts with hedge cutting and risk of damage/vandalisation. [Cllr Ciaran Beary left the meeting at 19.12 hrs]

H.034/20 HGV OPERATOR LICENCES:

Councillor Carol Gibson reported that no major changes since the last meeting and would produce an updated summary for circulation for members.

Noted the new site in Church Road [Church Road Farm] has been granted an Operators Licences – but no Planning Permission has been sought for this site.

Agreed – Upon completion of updated data to forward a report to Martin Tett at Buckinghamshire Council to highlight the ongoing plight of the village and HGV movements. [Cllr Geoff Bennett left the meeting at 19.28 hrs].

H.035/20 BUDGET MONITORING:

Details circulated to members, by the Clerk, who highlighted the change of format in order to make ease of comparison between each year, the spend to-date, and expenditure committed for the respective accounting period but yet to be charged.

Members were asked to consider projects for expenditure in the coming year, with an indication as to costs. It was pointed out that replacement [hardwood] timber slats for benches can cost £800.00 per unit. Whilst the LED upgrade of Lighting is now over 60% complete the cost of a further phase to 100% could result in a call on the precept. In the current circumstances it was felt that expenditure for the coming year should be cost neutral to the budget. The Clerk also recommended to members that in line with the COVID Recovery Plan, the Committee should focus on “feel good” projects including but not limited too:

- Wild flower verges.
- Bollards to keep traffic off the verges
- Planters.

As the Precept has to be set and agreed in January, members need to finalise their “wish list” for projects for the coming year. As the next Highways and Infrastructure Committee meeting is not scheduled until February, it was **agreed** to defer setting of the budget and to hold a further Budget Meeting in late November/early December to finalise the “wish list”.

H.036/20 PRESS RELEASES/WEBSITE:

The committee requested that the following media releases be prepared for approval by the Chairman:

- Completion of stage 3 of the lighting upgrade programme with an indication of the energy cost savings, and green credentials.
- Bollards for replacement – with reflective stripes

- Dog Bin replacement with plea to residents to make use and report any signs of damage. Also request feed back on siting of the units to ensure better utiolsation.

The meeting finished at 19.43 hrs

Signed Chairman

Date

Date of the next meeting [for budget setting to be confirmed for end of November/early December 2020], date of next scheduled meeting 10th February 2021.